

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Yoshitaka Asou et al.

Serial No.: 10/783,680

Filed: February 20, 2004

For: BLACK HEXAVALENT  
CHROMIUM-FREE PLATING  
TREATMENT

Patent Examiner: Zheng, Lois L

Group Art Unit: 1793

Confirmation No. 6994

January 30, 2008

Costa Mesa, California 92626

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

In response to the Office Action of October 31, 2007, please amend the above-identified application as follows: